CDXC Newsletter

July 1990 *Chiltern DX Club* Issue 68

Editorial

(Steve Telenius-Lowe, G4JVG)

As your new newsletter editor, I am struggling with some unfamiliar word processing software in order to produce this newsletter. Yesterday a "hiccup" caused the loss of about three hours worth of inputting, which I have had to retype! I am fully aware that I have a hard act to follow the excellent example set by Don G3XTT over the past few years. The last few newsletters in particular looked extremely professional and were something of which the club could be justifiably proud. Fortunately Don lives close to me and has promised to help "tidy up" the basic word processing that I produce on his rather more sophisticated computer in order to produce the professional-looking final result that I hope you are now looking at! On behalf of the entire club membership, I would like to thank Don for all the hard work he has put in since he took over, supposedly "temporarily", as newsletter editor.

I had fully intended to be the newsletter editor until the next A.R.M. at least, and perhaps longer, if the new committee had asked me to continue.

However, since the A.R.M. things have been moving very rapidly career-wise, and since starting to compile this newsletter I have applied for a post, been interviewed, and accepted (subject to suitable references and subject to contract) for a position with the Post and Telecommunication Authority of Papua New Guinea. I understand that it may take several months to sort out visas, work permits and so on, but it does mean that I should be in P29 - for about three years or more - from the end of the year. Naturally I hope to get on the air from out there fairly quickly and so keep in touch with CDXC members that way. There is also the distinct possibility of operations from one or two Pacific islands on the way out, a round the world trip in a couple of years and so on. I also hope to activate some of the IOTA island groups in the P29 area, but this is all some time off yet. In the short term, it does unfortunately mean that I will have to give up my duties as newsletter editor and social secretary. Volunteers required to take over these positions, please, a.s.a.p. to any committee member. For the newsletter editor position, access to some sort of computer is required, although don't worry if you only have simple word processing capabilities, as it is possible to improve the layout and so on later. However, if you have DTP - so much the better!

The newsletter is arguably the main thing which holds the club together, and so is vital to the club's very existence. I feel rotten about giving it up so soon after taking over from Don, but I had no idea that this job was coming up when agreeing to become the editor at the A.R.M. Please do not leave it to someone else to volunteer - if you can, *please* do volunteer your services now.

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN
(Don Field, G3XTT)

This newsletter is rather later than hoped, which is partly my fault and partly force of circumstance. However, Steve has put together a bumper issue which I hope you will enjoy. I was press ganged into joining one DX Association a year back and recently received my first communication from them - a demand for this year's sub! CDXC gives you more than this. The next newsletter should be ready in time for the HF Convention.

I was very gratified at the postive attitude taken by those of you who attended the Annual Review Meeting. The concensus was that CDXC is now large enough and strong enough to think about significant expansion of its activities, particularly in the services it offers to members. I am delighted to have been elected Chairman at this time, and want to thank the outgoing committee, and partiularly Ian, G4LJF, as outgoing Chairman, for having built the Club up to such a strong position over the last 12 months. I hope all of you will now rally round and make it possible for us to meet the objectives we have taken on. In one sense this means that I hope you will find the increased subscripiton acceptable - it is still less than that charged by many similar organisations. In another sense, I hope you will be prepared to give your time to become involved in CDXC activities - the HF Convention is a good opportunity to come forward and help man the CDXC stand and hospitality room.

I believe that we should be working not only for ourselves but for the wider community of UK DXers (who, hopefully, will in any case end up in CDXC eventually). I am thinking in terms of being prepared to give assistance and advice to newcomers to the DXing scene, contributing input to DXNS and RadCom, taking part in DXpeditions, and so on. The very fact that we are members of CDXC means we have been in this game for some time and, presumably, have got a lot out of it, so let's be prepared to put something back in.

The various PacketClusters are, of course, a good example at the moment. The "few" put money and time into running them, but the "many" are able to take advantage. With Clusters now running in Berkshire, Devon, Gloucestershire and Yorkshire, plus more on the cards, I forsee a very profitable DX season ahead! I look forward to meeting you all at Daventry.

Finally, as this goes to press there is news that Bren, G4DYO, has reached an accommodation with the RSGB, at least for the time being, regarding DX News Sheet. This is good news for all of us. Although Bren is no longer a CDXC member, he is a past editor of this newsletter and has done a fine job with News Sheet. Let's hope it can continue for many more years.

As a final final, we are looking for hosts for foreign visitors around the time of the Convention. For example, LA1EE needs somewhere to stay close to Heathrow on the Sunday. Please let Martin, G3ZAY, kown if you can help.

CDXC Committee:

President	**G4LJF**
Chairman	**G3XTT**
Vice-Chairman	**G0HSD**
Secretary	**G3LQP**
Treasurer	**G4GED**
Newsletter	**G4JVG**

Other Officers:

Awards Manager	**G4GED**
Social Secretary	**G4JVG**
Newsletter Printing and Distribution	**G4JVG**

Club Net: Mondays, 7pm local time, 3773kHz
Club Alerting Frequencies: 144.525 & 70.385MHz
Packet Cluster: GB7DXI on 70.325MHz
or via WOK22 on 144.675MHz

Deadline for next newsletter: 13th Sept. 1990

Secretary's Notepad
(From Roger, G3LQP)

The review meeting been and gone, so has Longleat, so the next big "do" is Daventry. As previously stated in the last issue, we will be putting on a bigger show this time, in fact arrangements were finalised at a committee meeting held on 16th July. Thanks to Andrew G0HSD and Peter G0ABI for volunteering to man the stand, but we need a few more - so don't be shy!

A lot of ground was covered at the review meeting, thanks for your support in electing me secretary - my 7th consecutive year on the committee. Perhaps a disappointing number of people turned up for the meeting, although for me more disappointing was the number who did not even tender their apologies. As you can see from the minutes of the meeting, the outgoing chairman commented that it was the same few people who do all the work for the club.

Two new members to add to your list: welcome to Adrian Poole ZC4AP - now based at Locking, and Barry Steele G3LZK, who has just renewed interest in DXing after a long break.

Activity from here has been rather limited during the past 6 weeks, due to the fact that my mother passed away in early June. Rather sad that my GW activity will be curtailed from previous years.

It looks at the moment that Bren G4DYO and the RSGB are going to part company and that a new editor will be in charge of DX News Sheet. With any dispute, there are rights and wrongs on both sides, but if the break does come about, the new editor will have an extremely difficult job maintaining the high standard which Bren set. DXNS is undoubtedly now one of the best in the world.

That's it for now - just a short footnote though - after the Penguin Island activity, they reckon that Barry Island will count for a new one! Wot say you?!

Take care and good DXing, Roger G3LQP

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

From Andrew, G0HSD: Hi everyone, don't these deadlines come around quickly?

I hope everyone is well and have had a successful few weeks with 7O and the rest. As of writing time it looks like Albania is back to square one with the trouble in Tirana and the Hungarian embassy stormed!

Well, the last month or so have been very busy here and at the OZF QTH. I have been helping Don erect his new tower and in return have acquired his old P60. So with a bit of luck that should be up and running in the near future.

As I have now been at the new QTH some two and a half months, I now have a wandering eye for sites for LF arrays. Many things have sprung to mind, such as the 100 ft church tower next door and a friendly farmer with a disused railway track through his land. I will see what I can do and may be in a position to have a good bash on LF this coming season. I also hope to become more active in contests and I hope to maybe have a go in one or two major ones later in the year.

Results DX-wise are still favourable. A lot of Pacific DX is now being worked. The signals now even move the S meter!

I thoroughly enjoyed the ARM at Ian's which I think was a successful meeting with several topics raised. I was elected to the club's committee as vice chairman, a role in which I will do whatever I can to help Don and the others in whatever plans the committee has for the future. Many thanks Ian for your hospitality *[hear, hear! - ed]*

Well between now and the next newsletter I will be busy with a holiday to F (2m not included - don't speak French!) and another IOTA expedition which I guess Martin ZAY will announce *[what about it Martin?! - ed]* which, if it's anything like last year, will be a riot!

Best 73 and I hope to be back on .525 soon, Andrew, G0HSD.

From Ian, G4LJF: The full-colour CDXC QSLs are proving very popular and so far 31000 cards have been ordered from the printers in Hong Kong. Most of these orders have already been despatched from H.K., but are being sent by surface mail to reduce postage costs, so don't worry if you have not received yours yet. However, the cost of printing was based on a run of 50000 cards, so orders for at least 19000 more are required. If you would like excellent-quality full colour QSLs far cheaper than elsewhere and have not already ordered, please send an s.a.s.e. to Ian Shepherd, Hutt's Farm, Blagrove Lane, Wokingham, Berks., RG11 4RX for an order form. Please order sooner rather than later.

From Don, G3OZF: The plan to upgrade the Versatower to a heavy duty 80 foot installation seemed a good idea at the time! The regular storm force winds have caused a few concerns at the QTH, as the tower is just 10 feet from the house. A fairly straightforward job - take down the old P60, dig out the groundpost and put a new one in the hole, concrete it in, assemble the tower and get on with the DX...

Weekend 1: 0730 Saturday - mechanical digger arrives. Driver gives driving lesson and leaves. OZF tries to start the digger again - flat battery! One hour later, the hire company changes the battery and we try again.

0945 - Step trench digging begins. What a lot of soil comes out of a hole 7 feet long x 2 feet wide x 4 feet deep! At 4 feet, an interesting sound - we've found a soak-away pipe that runs less than 18" from the existing ground post an d right in the line of the trench! Fill in trench and start again at 90 degrees.

1230 - trench is finished - down to 5 ft (they *said* the digger would go down to 6 feet!) But it can't be too difficult to dig out the last foot by hand...

1700 - By now we have found out that five foot down there is solid (yes *solid*) clay, which is as hard as concrete. The only way to make any impression is to drill into it with the Kango hammer to break it up a little, then attack it with a trowel. But working over 5 feet down in a narrow trench gives little scope for movement. Progress is painfully slow, with Andrew G0HSD and OZF taking turns down the hole.

2030 - this is ridiculous. Still not down to the bottom of the ground post. So we hook a rope on to the top of it and attach it to the digger arm. The power of the digger manages to get the post 30 degrees to the vertical. After a bit of work and much pulling from the digger the clay gives up the battle and the ground post comes up like a cork from a bottle. All retire to the fridge for beer and recovery.

0800 Sunday - now just a question of digging out the hole a little bit bigger to take the bigger ground post.

1330 - after lunch time to get the post in. The JCB makes light work of dropping it into the hole with great precision.

1400 - concreting begins, but we run out of cement as the hole is bigger than planned - because of the two trenches.

1800 - finish concreting

Now to get the tower ready. But wait, Strumech have delivered the tower fully assembled and put it down within the top pointing to the garden wall. So I can't get the sections out without turning the whole tower. It weighs about half a ton. A quick use of the JCB turns the whole thing and we pull it apart, only to find that the bottom section alone is far too heavy to contemplate lifting on to the ground post in a week or two. We'll need a crane! Retire to bed, disconsolate.

Weekend 2 - Saturday - we dispose of the old P60 on a lorry to Andrew's QTH then return to finish the concrete. In all, about a ton of concrete!

Weekend 3 - Saturday - our local farmer has a "crane". Put more accurately it is a monster tractor (4 ft tyres!) with a long hydraulic jib. Why did we take the tower to pieces? - this thing lifted the base section as if it were a twig and could just as easily have lifted the whole tower.

I start to prepare the head unit...

Pythagoras is then brought out to calculate the length of each guy, and the nine ropes cut,

made off and thimbles fitted. Chain, to allow the tower to be used at 60 feet and 80 feet is cut for the nine guying points.

Sunday - we all go to the Longleat Rally, but return in time to put the tower together, add the guys and wind it up. My goodness, that is tall - but the motor takes all the strain out of raising it.

Weekend 4, Saturday - that TH6DXX really is rather big down here on the ground. Still, it came off the old tower, so it will go back on this one. After carefully planning how we will get it on the end of the tower, on it goes, with the boom guyed to stop it going off vertical. The whole operation takes two hours, but Murphy stays away.

After that putting the 6, 4 and 2 metre antennas on top is a breeze. The UR67 feeders are attached and Scotch 23 "gunge" tape used to seal it all...

Sunday - Now for the LF antennas. A quick VSWR check shows that the 80/40 metre dipole is 3:1 on 40 metres - one of the traps has fractured internally.

Another delay...

Weekend 5 - new traps and we're away. The 160 metres vertical goes up easily, and the 40 metre slopers likewise. The first outing of the tower at full height will be in the IARU contest in July.Let's hope it was all worth it. A final word: I couldn't have done it without Andrew's help - thanks.

Friedricshafen 1990

Every year at the end of June the southern German town of Friedricshafen on the northern shore of the Bodensee hosts the largest amateur radio gathering in Europe. A huge exhibition complex on the northern edge of the town is the venue for trade stands, a covered flea market, lectures, restaurants, camping facilities, and a temporary youth hostel. A mile or so away, in the town centre, accommodation is available in a range of inexpensive hotels, and a lake-side conference centre offers banqueting and dancing facilities.

Getting there is easy either via the German autobahn network, or Zurich airport from where there is an hourly train service connecting with a lake ferry to Friedricshafen pier.

This year saw a large turn-out of DXers including 9N1MM, K3NA, DL8CM (just packing for the Penguin Is trip), DL2GAC (well known for his solo IOTA expeditions), the 7O1AA group, DJ5CQ (of Lord Howe fame), F2CW, OE2VEL, DK2OC, DJ9ZB and many more. There were visitors from just about every European country, including for the first time large numbers from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and a good sized contingent of 20-30 UK operators including G4GIR and G4BWP who now make this an annual excursion. The trade show included all the familiar makes and a number of less familiar names such as Fritzel antennas who shared a stand with Strumech (the Versatower people). Half a dozen or so UK firms were represented including Practical Wireless and Kent morse keys and the RSGB stand was doing a roaring trade in books and subscriptions.

Contest pile-up tapes now seem to be de rigeur and the Bavarian Contest Club was offering both CW and SSB pile-ups on its stand. Fresh from success two years running in the Clipperton Club phone pile-up contest I was somewhat chagrined to finish 3rd equal, a long way behind the joint winners. I hope we will have the same tape available at the RSGB HF Convention for CDXC members to try, but be warned, you will need to guess the majority of calls (all well known contesters) from hearing only one or two letters.

On the first evening most of the visiting DXers, traders and stand representatives were guests of the DARC for a formal dinner whilst on the second there was a less structured event with food, wine, and beer served in the

conference centre to the accompaniment of a Bavarian band.

For the future, Friedricshafen's central position in Europe makes it the only candidate for a European Dayton. Already most of the elements are present and only the language difficulty and a potential lack of hotel accommodation can limit its growth. See you there next year?

Martin, G3ZAY

MINI-EXPEDITION TO ANGUILLA , VP2E/G4JVG

I have often said in the past that, given the choice, I would rather be DX than work DX, and despite all the new countries that have come along my way recently (1S, ST0, KH5J, 3D2/cr, 7O) I have been missing the thrill of being on the receiving end of a decent-size pile-up. When talk in our household turned to where to go for our annual holiday this year, a place where I could take a rig and get a licence and - hopefully - a pile-up was in the back of my mind. Scanning through the glossy brochures we found that June - when Eva and I had our leave booked - was very much the low season in the Caribbean, and some very good bargains could be had. Once we had decided on the Caribbean area, it only had to be decided which island to go to. The brochures were full of accommodation in Barbados (but 8P is pretty common) and Antigua (which I had visited in transit six years ago en route to and from Montserrat, where I was one of the VP2MW contest team) and a few companies also went to St Lucia, Grenada and the Grenadines. The Grenadines in particular looked beautiful, but were very expensive. Just two brochures also listed Anguilla, which I have never heard of as a holiday destination before. I didn't know anyone that had been there, which made it even more attractive, and - being the low season - one place, the Anguilla Great House, was offering two weeks' accommodation for the price of one, as well as a 50 US dollar per person free bar credit. Having been to the Caribbean before, I knew how expensive eating and drinking was there, so this seemed to be the ideal place to stay!

A booking was made, followed by a letter to the manager, explaining a little about amateur radio and what I hoped to do at his hotel. I said I would phone a few days before leaving to see if he had any queries and to check that it was OK with him for me to bring my gear. Meanwhile, I phoned the RSGB to ask about reciprocal licensing in Anguilla. The person I spoke to had clearly never heard of the place, at first thinking I was talking about Angola, then - when I explained it was in the Caribbean - telling me that it was called Antigua, not Anguilla. When I explained that it was still a British island and that it was very definitely called Anguilla she said that if it was British it would have a VP2 prefix (ah! - now we're getting somewhere, I thought!) but the only places with VP2 prefixes were the Virgin Islands and Montserrat, so Anguilla must now be independent... I tried the DTI amateur radio section and was told that there was no reciprocal licensing agreement between the U.K. and Anguilla, but that Cable and Wireless issued licences there and that I could try writing to them. The DTI were very helpful, they even had an address for Cable and Wireless on Anguilla, so I wrote to them and waited, and waited...

Meanwhile, I wrote to Paul Meacham, VP2EXX, the only active amateur on Anguilla of which I was aware, and explained my problem. I had worked Paul afew times and knew him to be a keen contester and DXer, so suggested we should meet when I got to Anguilla, as I knew we would have a lot in common. Paul was very helpful, and told me that Cable and Wireless hadn't issued licences for many years, they were now issued by the Department of Information, who also

run the government radio station, Radio Anguilla. He told me the name of the person I should contact, and even let me know his phone number. I phoned Menes Hodge, the director of Radio Anguilla, and asked him about licensing. As I suspected, there was no problem at all, once you knew who to contact! All you have to do is take along your home licence and pay the fee, which is a rather hefty 100 East Caribbean dollars (about £22), and you're on the air. However, it is not possible to get your licence before leaving, so I was not able to let anyone know callsigns etc. Also, because we arrived in Anguilla on a Saturday and Mr Hodge works normal office hours I could not get on the air until Monday.

I had packed the TS-430S, PS-430, about 80 foot of RG58 co-ax, fist mic, lightweight headphones, a CB-type SWR bridge and a little Sony ICF-7600DS general coverage receiver with its PSU into a small suitcase, the dimensions of which are the maximum permitted on aircraft as hand baggage (in fact the above contents fit perfectly - if tightly - into such a case). The antenna - a Butternut HF6VX vertical - was checked into the aircraft hold, along with our single suitcase, after it had been X-rayed by the security staff (I wondered what it must have looked like, with all its coils, tubes and nuts and bolts, but they did not query that it was anything other than a radio aerial). At the hand baggage security check there were the usual questions about what all this equipment was, but they seemd more interested in my proving that the Sony ICF-7600DS worked - fortunately I had put batteries in, so it did. A view of the G4JVG licence convinced the man that the remainder of the gear was not subversive. Taking the rig, power supply etc. as hand baggage means that you can be sure they will all arrive in good shape, but I can assure you they do get very heavy by the time you have walked what seems like miles to departure gate 60 at Gatwick North Terminal! We were disappointed that the BA Jumbo did not have Captain Shepherd at the controls, but nevertheless it was a very comfortable flight to San Juan, P.R., where we had a six-hour stopover before our two-hour connecting flight in a 16-seater Twin Otter on to Anguilla.

At the Anguilla Great House we had been accommodated in a very comfortable room, but unfortunately without any suitable supports for the Butternut vertical. However, it really was the low season, and of the 25 rooms in five separate bungalows only two or three were occupied, so it was no problem to move to a room in an otherwise empty bungalow which had some scrub land at the back with several suitable bushes, large rocks and bits of concrete to which I could attach guy strings. There was also plenty of space for the radials and it was well out of the way (I used just about all the RG58), where no-one was likely to trip over the wires and with just a few goats grazing in the vicinity. To cap it all, there was a large salt lake just beyond the end of one of the 3.8 MHz radials, so all in all it looked a pretty good location!

On the Monday, we took a trip into The Valley, Anguilla's "capital", to meet Menes Hodge and get the licence organised. I asked for any available callsign in the VP2E- or VP2E-- series, but Mr Hodge said these were reserved for residents and I would be issued VP2E/G4JVG (I later found out that there are ways and means of getting a "proper" callsign, but it helps if you have been there before, so perhaps next time I will be more lucky!) The bands, modes and power permitted are very much up to you - Mr Hodge asked what bands and how much power I would like to use and wrote these straight on to the licence. It was therefore no problem to get permission to use the WARC bands and if I had had 50 MHz gear with me I am sure this would have been permitted too. I had only taken a TS-430S with me, so only requested 100 watts, but feel that if I had asked for 3 kW this would probably have been granted just as easily!

It was Monday evening by the time I had organised the licence and had got the station and antenna set up - late Monday night GMT - but a short CQ call on 14195 brought back several callers from the States, then a few Europeans and within ten or fifteen minutes a

howling pile-up had developed and it became necessary to operate split. This was going to be fun, I thought! After about 100 QSOs I went QRT for dinner, a few drinks, and afterwards bed. The next morning I thought I would try 28 MHz, but it was completely dead. Never mind, 21 MHz should be good into Europe, or perhaps even Asia at this time of day. No such luck. I worked one or two weak W stations and a couple of YUs and UB5s (its funny, but they seem to be the strongest Europeans even over there!) but my CQ calls went unanswered for several minutes at a time. Everyone was commenting that conditions were rather odd. That evening things were just as poor on 14 MHz, and the next day things were even worse - it became quite difficult to get any QSOs at all, and by this time everyone was saying how abysmal conditions were. It transpired that there had been a major solar flare two or three days earlier which had had a devastating effect on propagation and its effects were to be with me for most of the two week stay.

After a couple of days of operating I was called by a very strong station - my first VP2E, Dorothea, VP2EE. She was far more surprised to hear me than I was to hear her, as she did not know that there were any visiting amateurs on the island, and Paul had told me in his letter that only he, his father, and Dorothea and her husband Dave VP2EHF were active from Anguilla. We arranged to meet and immediately became good friends with Dave and Dorothea. They have retired from the US military to Anguilla and have spent about two years getting their house, at the end of a long pot-holed unmade track, built. It was nearing completion when we visited them in June. Although our tiny Suzuki hire car grounded on the rutted track at the same point on the journey each time we went to and from their house, it was worth the journey. Built on a half-acre site, it is a modern two storey affair, with the most noticeable feature being an electricity generating windmill on top of a 64 foor Rohn tower. Dave says it provides most of their power and helps keep the Anguillan government electric bills low. Another 64 foot Rohn tower supports wire dipoles, loops and VHF antennas, although Dave has bought a monster Mosley 7-element beam for 7-28 MHz on a 40-odd ft boom, which he hopes to be able to erect very soon. He is also importing another two 64 ft towers, on which he will put 5-element monoband beams for 18 and 24 MHz, his two favourite bands. At present he has a quad loop for one of these bands on the windmill tower and a 5-ele yagi supported temporarily on the remains of a Hy-Gain "High Tower" vertical, which didn't seem to work - despite burying thousands of feet of radials. Add to this a Butternut vertical, a short roof tripod tower with a 6-metre beam and various other antennas and it already looks fairly impressive - when all four 64 foot towers are up it should be quite a sight!

Dave and Dorothea's closest neighbour - at the end of this awful pot-holed track, miles from anywhere, is another beautiful modern villa, this one with a Cushcraft A4 on the roof. This belongs to Fritz HB9SL, but he only visits Anguilla a couple of times a year and the house is empty most of the time. Apparently Fritz has plans to put up a 100 ft tower with HF mono-banders!

There is not much in the way of sightseeing on Anguilla, the interior is relatively unattractive and most of it is scrubland. Most people go to Anguilla for the beaches, which are among the best, if not THE best in the Caribbean, and the friendliness of the people. Rendezvous Bay, where the Anguilla Great House is situated, is a 2 mile long crescent of brilliant white coral sand, fringed with palm trees, on the south coast of the island with beautiful views across the Caribbean to Saint Martin/Sint Maarten (FS/PJ), the joint French/Dutch island, about 6 miles away. Rendezvous Bay was completely deserted while we were thereand even in mid-winter, the height of the tourist season, Dorothea said it was usually empty. Beaches on the north coast are slightly more populated, as they provide excellent snorkling off the coral reefs. There are also several small islets with splendid names like Prickly Pear Cays, Sandy Island,

Dog Island and Sombrero, where snorkling is also good.

By the second week, propagation improved slightly, although it was still hard going, without any great pile-ups such as I experienced the very first evening. One day I visited Paul, VP2EXX and his father Bill VP2EWM. They are also Americans, and Bill has been working on a contract in Anguilla since November 1988. Paul does not work, he operates radio - a lot! Since they moved to the island, Paul has worked 303 countries - I did not realise so many countries had been active in so short a period! I was even more impressed when Paul said that the great majority of these were worked using verticals and wire antennas, as they had only recently acquired their Cushcraft A3 beam, courtesy of JA2UZD, who recently operated from their QTH and left his beam behind as a thank you. However, they have an excellent location on a 200 ft cliff on the north coast of the island, with a clear sea path take-off from west to east, taking in all of the USA, Europe and Africa. The beam is only about 25 ft high on a scaffold pole, but is right on the cliff edge, so it has an effective height of over 200 ft in all directions other than south.

Paul is still only 17 years old, and went on his first DXpedition when he was but 15 - he was one of the highly-successful KP2A/KP5 Desecheo Island operators (see the November 1989 "CQ" Magazine for Paul's account of this expedition). I took over the controls of the VP2EXX station, poked the beam towards Europe and stoked up the MLA2500 linear. Within minutes there was a howling pile up and less than an hour later 200 QSOs were in the log. What a difference a beam and a bit of power makes! I was interested to determine how much difference the excellent VP2EXX location made, so when I got back to Rendezvous Bay (at sea level and on the south coast of the island) Peter G3SJX gave Paul and me comparative reports on 15 metres. Oddly enough, Paul (using just 100 watts now) was only 5-6 dB stronger than me, despite the fact that he was using a beam and I a vertical. We concluded that the QTH makes less difference than most would imagine.

Paul suggested that I take a look at the famous VP2EC contest station location on the north-east coast of the island. This is owned by KC5EA and N5AU and consists of a remote house on a hill top with two 110 ft towers. At present there is no mains electricity there - though they have a 10 kW generator - and the house is only used for the annual WPX contests. Paul suspects that more towers will be going up and it will become one of the really big Caribbean stations to rival P40V.

Being midsummer, I was not expecting any great propagation on the LF bands, but I did try one or two skeds. Roger GW4OFQ called me on 21 MHz one day and we arranged a 7 MHz sked at my sunset. This was accomplished with ease, so we tried 80 metres. I heard Roger immediately, but he was obviously having problems hearing my 100 watts and it was some time before Roger found a clear enough frequency to copy me. Eventually my signal peaked sufficiently, but by this time I was copying Roger at 59 +10, an outstanding signal, considering that I could not hear any other stations on the band - no Ws, no other Caribbeans and no South Americans! Eventually I also exchanged reports with G4PEL and two Italian stations on 80 metres, but it was hard going and I now know why one only rarely hears Caribbean stations on the LF bands in Europe, and especially in the summer months.

After 11 days of fairly casual operating interspersed between sightseeing, visiting other amateurs, swimming and going out for meals, I had worked just over 1200 QSOs. If conditions had been better - or if I had had a beam and/or linear - I feel sure I could have worked two or three times as many QSOs without spending any longer on the air. However, it was all good fun. I hope to have the VP2E/G4JVG QSLs ready soon, courtesy of the CDXC QSL service. Thanks to all the CDXC members who gave me a call, it was nice to hear so many familiar callsigns from the other side of the Atlantic!

CDXC AWARDS OF MERIT

You will have read in the minutes of the A.R.M., which took place in May, of the various suggestions which were put forward by the committee and ordinary members alike for suitable recipients for CDXC's new improved Award of Merit.

Our hard-working Awards Manager, Dave G4GED, has spent some considerable time in investigating various companies who can provide trophies, plaques, awards and so on, and he has come up with some splendid examples. The idea is that the CDXC Award of Merit, which should only be awarded for particularly outstanding operations, should be made to look more prestigious and thus better reflect the achievement for which it is being awarded. Until recently, nice though this idea was, it would have been impossible to implement with the club funds as they were. However, for those members who were not able to attend the A.R.M., the great majority of members present believed that the club ought to be expanding and becoming more "high profile", and awarding top-quality plaques as CDXC Awards of Merit was seen to be one way of achieving this aim. (Indeed, this was one reason why the club subscription was increased to £10, in order to be able to pay for these "high profile" activities!).

Since the A.R.M. there has, of course, been the excellent 7O1AA operation, which gave most members a new country, in most cases on three bands. Your new committee discussed the various expeditions that there have been during the last year and decided that two of the new Awards of Merit should be presented.

One should go to the 7O1AA team (one plaque, plus updated certificates to all the members of the team), for activating a country which ranked amongst the rarest in the world. The operation could have been disastrous, as the operators were relatively inexperienced in pile-up situations (and, boy, did they have some pile-ups to contend with!) and this was their first DXpedition of any sort. But after a slightly shaky start they handled the pile-ups in fine fashion, abbreviating QSOs in an innovative manner, but always giving your callsign clearly so there was never any doubt that you had worked them. A lot of very experienced expedition operators listened, and were impressed by what they heard - some even learned a few lessons! It is hoped that our new President, Ian G4LJF, will be able to award the plaque and certificates in person in Kuwait at some date in the future.

The committee decided that the second CDXC Award of Merit should go to Matts Persson, SM7PKK. Matts has operated from innumerable Pacific DXCC countries over the last three winters, and given many European DXers a "new one". Matts is still only in his early 20s, and gives up his job for months at a time to go - on unpaid leave - on his expeditions. He works during the summer months just to save enough money to go to the Pacific in the winter. He is fortunate in living with his parents and having few living expenses in Sweden, but unlike some expeditioners, Matts does not stay in luxury hotels - he really roughs it to make his meagre funds last a little longer so that he can go on to another island. Matts takes all his gear, including transceiver, linear amplifier and antennas, in a rucksack - everything has to be carried by himself: that really is DXpeditioning! Matts will be giving a presentation on his Pacific travels at the HF Convention in Daventry on 30th September, and will be presented with the CDXC Award of Merit on that occasion.

It is interesting that these two awards are "balanced" in as much as the 7O1AA operation was exclusively SSB, while SM7PKK operates almost 100% CW. Both are highly deserving, but for very different reasons.

CDXC
CHILTERN DX CLUB

A CDXC Expedition?

Both John G3OLU and Andrew G0HSD have suggested that CDXC ought to mount a DXpedition together, as a club. After all, the Clipperton DX Club and LA-DX Group were both founded on major DXpeditions, we already have well over 100 members, surely we ought to be able to mount a successful expedition somewhere?

Many CDXC members are experienced DXpeditioners in their own right (indeed, we are fortunate to include F6EXV, DJ9ZB, DJ8NK and DK9KX among our ranks) - G4LJF has operated from D68, 3B8, S79, V2A to name but four, G3FXB from ZC4, G3SXW and G3TXF from C56, I have operated from VK9Y, VP2M, VP2E, OH0 and so on.

Apart from IOTA expeditions to islands off the British coast, and the GJ6UW contest operations, arguably the closest there has been to a CDXC DXpedition as a club was the 1987 OF0MA Market Reef operation, in which Steve G4EDG, Drew GM3YOR and I joined OH0NA and SM5AQD in a very successful expedition which netted over 23000 QSOs. However, this was mainly organised by Kee OH0NA, and could not really be considered a CDXC expedition.

What do other members think? Would there be support among the club as a whole for a small number of CDXC members to go on an expedition somewhere, flying the CDXC flag? Club funds could be used to cover some - though probably not all - of the expenses, the club would pay for QSLs (which would themselves "advertise" the club), someone (or several members) could act as QSL manager, somebody else could be involved with pre-expedition planning and logistics, someone else with publicity - in other words, the whole club would be involved in the expedition, even if only a relatively small number of people actually operated on the expedition. If you think this is the way the club should go, please let any committee member know your views. Oh - and where should the expedition be to? Has C56 been done too much recently? What about 8Q, S79 or 3V8? Or should we try for somewhere really quite difficult, such as VP8 South Georgia, or South Orkneys, or ZD7 or ZD9? Or should we not be so ambitious and try for SV5 or SV9 (now that Greece has adopted the CEPT licence recommendations, these two countries should be very easy to arrange). Please let your committee know what YOU think!

DX CENTURY CLUB

The 29 June issue of the ARRL Letter reports that the DX Century Club will institute a new fee schedule on 1 Oct,1990. After that date, first-time applicants will be charged $10 in addition to the usual costs of returning cards. DXCC members as of 1 October are exempt from this registration fee. Also, ARRL and CRRL members will get one free DXCC submission each calendar year, toward any number of DXCC awards. Additional submissions will cost $10. Non-league members outside the US or Canada will be charged $10 for their first, and $20 for any additional submissions in a given year. As at present, US and Canadian DXers must be members of ARRL or CRRL to apply for DXCC.

Congratulations

Warmest congratulations are extended to Dave, G4BUO, and Steve, G3YDV (NM2Y), who represented the UK at the World Radiosport Team Championship in Seattle and came 7th out of 22 entries, a very creitable result considering the high level of the competition and the fact that there can never be a completely level playing field in this game. Incidentally, despite an invitation in DXNS and elsewhere for volunteers to step forward, the five who expressed a willingness to go out to Seattle were all CDXC members. Dave and Steve were chosen for their extensive contesting experience, both CW and SSB, from both home and DX QTH's.

CDXC MEMBERS

It has been some time since a complete membership list has been published with the CDXC newsletter. CDXC now has 123 members, and I intend to print a complete membership list with the NEXT newsletter. Details will include callsign, name, home phone number and postal address. If you do NOT want any of these details printed, please let me know before the next deadline. The list will be circulated ONLY to other CDXC members, i.e. as part of the newsletter. The following is a list of CDXC members as of May1990:

BRS10663 BRS25429 BRS3129 DJ8NK DJ9ZB DK9KX EL2WK F6EXV G0ABI G0AEQ G0AKW G0ANP G0BTY G0DQS G0EXD G0GLB G0HGW G0HSD G0IHK G0JSM G0KUB(5B4MF) G0MFO(AA6MC) G2AMV G2BJK G3AAE G3AEZ G3BRD G3COJ G3ESY G3FKM G3FXB G3GIQ G3GJX G3GNR G3HCT G3HTA G3IFB G3JFH G3JXN G3KDB G3KMA G3KOX G3LCS G3LQP G3LZK G3MCS G3MIR G3MXJ G3NKQ G3NKS G3NOB G3NOF G3OFW G3OLU G3OZF G3PSH G3RFS(6Y5FS) G3RIR G3RUR G3RUX G3RZP G3SJX G3SWH G3SXW G3TLG G3TXF G3UML G3VKW G3VOF G3VXZ G3WGN G3XJZ G3XTT G3ZAY G3ZBA G4ADD G4AMN G4ASL G4AZN G4BKI G4BUE G4BUO G4CJY G4DII G4DQW G4EDG G4FAM G4GED G4IUF G4IWA G4JVG G4LJF G4NXG G4PDQ G4PEO G4RTO(VE3JGC) G4SOF G4STH G4SVB G4SZD G4UDU G4UZN G4WXO G4YAQ G4YLO G4YME G4YSN G4ZYQ GM3YOR GM3YTS GM4OBK GM4UZU GW0ARK GW3AHN GW3CDP GW4BKG GW4BLE GW4OFQ GW4RHW K3ZO NM2Y(G3YDV) ON5NT ZC4AP

I do not have *complete* details (either telephone number or operator's name missing) from the following: EL2WK, F6EXV, G0AKW, G0GLB, G0HGW, G0JSM, G2AMV, G3AAE, G3BRD, G3ESY, G3LZK, G3NOB, G3RFS, G3RZP, G3SWH, G3TLG, G3XJZ, G4BUO, G4SZD, G4WXO, G4YSN, GW4RHW, K3ZO, ON5NT and ZC4AP. Please let the new newsletter editor have your full details if you would like these included.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Until the last Annual Review Meeting, when the membership overwhelmingly (to the surprise of several committee members!) voted in a membership fee of £10, recruiting new members did not substantially increase club funds. This was mainly because the cost of printing and posting six newsletters per year was almost as much as the annual subscription. However, with an annual fee of £10 any new members will put extra money into the club account and permit us to achieve some of the goals described elsewhere in this newsletter, as well as give more support to DXpeditions. If you know of any amateur who qualifies and would like to become a member of CDXC, please write to our Secretary, Roger G3LQP, enclosing an s.a.s.e., for an application form (which the proposer should complete). The address is 32 Albert Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 4RX.

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget that it is time to renew your subs! Please send your £10 cheque to our treasurer, Dave Richardson, 92 Betham Rd., Greenford, Middx., UB6 8SA.

Radio Society of Great Britain

HF CONVENTION

29 and 30 September 1990

PENGUIN HOTEL, DAVENTRY

Saturday 29th September

Start at Noon Visits to BBC station, Daventry

7.30pm DX Dinner, Speaker Lawrence UA0/GB4MSS North Pole 90 Expedition

Sunday 30th September, starting at 10.30am (doors open at 10am)

Pacific DXpedition, Mats Persson SM7PKK

Bouvet DXpedition, 3Y5X, Einar Enderud LA1EE

Trophy Presentations

Young Amateur of the Year

Bhutan, A51JS, Jim Smith, VK9NS

Amateur Radio Software, Don Field G3XTT

UK DX Packet Alert, Ian Shepherd G4LJF

High Power HF Antennas, David Yates, G3PGQ

Digital Signal Processing, Dr.P.Saul, G8EUX

G-QRP Forum

Direction Finding

Question and Answer Session on HF and DX matters

Including all the usual attractions . . . .

RSGB Bookstall
CW Pile-up Team Competition
RNARS QRQ CW Tests
Chiltern DX Club
Planning Panel
RSGB Committees
Hands on Software Demos
Worked All Britain
Packet Point
IOTA

And many more . . . .

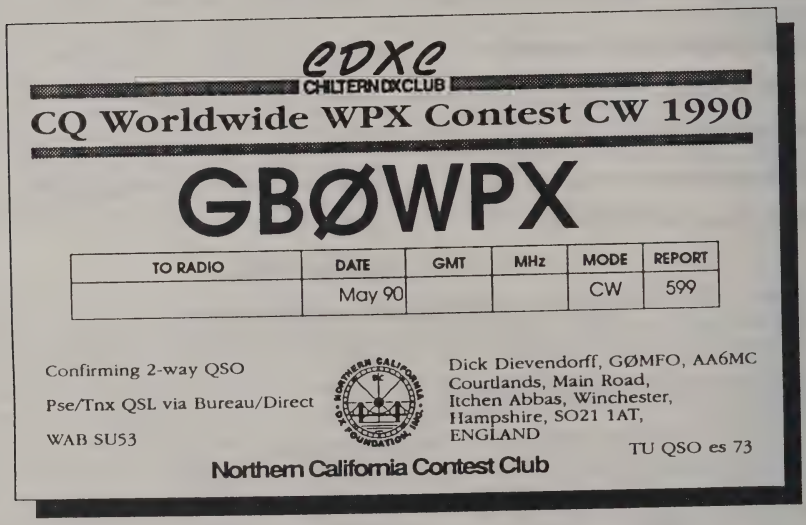
Also, raffle with many useful prizes

Booking required for Saturday events. Dinner £16.00. Cheques payable to M.J.Atherton
Booking for Saturday events and payment to:
Steve, G4JVG, Penworth, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green, Reading RG4 9EB
Entry for Sunday programme £4.00. Lunches and light snacks available
Overnight accommodation £25 per person. Book direct with hotel. Tel No. 0327 77333

HF CONVENTION AT DAVENTRY

Don't forget the HF Convention at Daventry this year, on 29th-30th September. For HF DXers, this is the biggest event of the year, with visiting DXers and DXpedition operators from many countries in attendance. As Britain's foremost DX club, we also have a duty to put on a good show, and perhaps show one or two UK amateurs what HF DX is all about, as well as recruiting a few new members. CDXC, as well as having a stand in the main exhibition area, has also booked a syndicate room. We need volunteers to man both areas, throughout the whole convention period on the Sunday. We also need slides or photos of your station or antennas, or DXpedition videos, or whatever you have that may be of interest and shows HF DXing in any way. Please contact G0HSD Andrew Shaw, The Rectory, Church End, Bledlow, Aylesbury, Bucks., HP17 9PD, who will be co-ordinating CDXC's representation at the HF Convention. Please don't leave it up to others to volunteer: if you can spend an hour or two to man the CDXC areas, or if you have any audio-visual material at all, please do contact Andrew.

CDXC QSL CARDS



As a service to operators of DXpeditions, etc, CDXC is now able to produce artwork for QSL cards on the lines of the one shown above. This is suitable for reproduction at a local Instaprint type of establishment (the GJ6UW cards, two sided on lightweight card, cost just over £90 for 3,000 cards, though you need to shop around to get the best price.

The artwork is produced using Desktop Publishing techniques, allowing maps, photographs, etc to be scanned and integrated with the rest of the material. For bona fide expeditions the artwork will be provided to DXpedition operators free of charge (and CDXC may also be prepared to go some way towards the cost of printing). For CDXC members operating from their own homes (as Dick was with GB0WPX), we ask for a £10 donation to Club funds. Contact G3XTT for details.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday 1st September, 2 pm, barbecue at G3KMA's QTH ("La Quinta", Mimbridge, Chobham, Woking, Surrey). Please bring your own hamburgers, pork chops, chicken pieces, steaks or sausages and beer, wine or soft drinks. We will provide the barbecue grills, charcoal, cooking utensils, plates, glasses and excellent location, where we can all admire Roger's new beam! Please let present social secretary G4JVG (Tel. 0734-722538 evenings or weekends) know if you are coming - YLs and XYLs welcome too of course.

In mid-September, we hope to have a social event at which Don Greenbaum, WB2DND, will be guest of honour. Unfortunately, at the time of compiling this newsletter, Don did not know exactly when he would be in the U.K., so if you want to be given full details of this event, please get in contact with G4JVG,either at G3KMA's QTH on 1st September, or by phone. WB2DND has written computer logging programmes for DXpedition-style operation, which has been used by TN4NW, 9Q5NW, 5H3TW and by Don himself when he has operated from A61AD. The software will be demonstrated by G3XTT at the HF Convention. We hope WB2DND will also bring some photos of his A61AD operations.

On 15th December, the CDXC Annual Christmas dinner will take place at the usual venue, Ye Olde Swan, Summer Lane, Thames Ditton. PLEASE NOTE: this is a change of date - thanks to John G3AEZ for pointing out that the original date set clashed with the RSGB's AGM. Unfortunately, I will not be able to take booking for this event this year, as I may well be in Papua New Guinea by the time of the Christmas dinner. So please let your new social secretary know if you can come to this event by the end of November. YLs and XYLs welcome!

CDXC Events Diary

1990	
1 September	Bar-B-Q, 2pm at G3KMA's QTH
8 September	Dinner with VS6CT
mid-September	Social evening with guest WB2DND/A61AD op (date and venue to be an nounced).
29/30 Sept.	RSGB HF Convention at Penguin Hotel, London Rd, Daventry.
27/28 Oct.	CQ World Wide Phone Contest (CDXC plans multi-op entry as GU6UW - or GP6UW? - from Guernsey for the first time. Antenna erectors, pile-up operators and multiplier chasers wanted!) Also, single operators, from their home QTHs or elsewhere wanted for the CDXC Team entry. For both, please contact G4JVG or G3XTT by early September.
24/25 Nov.	CQ World Wide CW Contest (Should there be a CDXC multi-op entry this year for the first time, eg from GJ?) Single operators, particularly outside Europe, re quired for CDXC "Team" entry - please contact G3XTT by early October.
15 Dec.	NOTE CHANGE OF DATE! Annual Christmas Dinner at Ye Olde Swan, Thames Ditton, YLs/XYLs welcome! To book your place phone the new social secretary by 30th November.
1991	
30-31 March	CQ WPX SSB Contest (multi op entry as GB4CDX or GX6UW?)
3rd w/e (?) April	RSGB National Convention, NEC, Birmingham
May	CDXC Annual Review Meeting
25/26 May	CQ WPX CW Contest (CDXC has not entered this before as a club. If you are interested, please contact a committee member)

PENALLT TROPHY

At the Annual Review Meeting, it was decided that for this year only the deadline for applications for the Penallt Trophy, awarded in memory of the late Alan Phillips GW0BIC, would be extended until the end of August 1990. Members are reminded that this splendid silver cup will be awarded at the HF Convention to the CDXC member who works the greatest number of countries on any five days of your choice (contests may be included) on 40 and 80 metres. For this year only the period for which you can include contacts is 1st September 1989 - 31st August 1990 (normally it will be 1st October - 31st March). The minimum number of countries to qualify for the trophy is 100 and this figure can be made up in any way you like, i.e. 50 on each band, or 99 on 40 metres and 1 on 80 metres, or even all 100 on 80! QSLs are not required - your honesty as a CDXC member is proof enough. If you qualify - and PLEASE look back through your logs for last winter, as far back as September last year - send your claim to any committee member to arrive before 7th September. If you don't qualify, why not give 40 and 80 metres a good bash over a few weekends to see what you can work?

IARU CONTEST 14th-15th JULY

The big 80 foot tower, complete with TH6DXX, at G3OZF's QTH was used in earnest during the IARU contest over the weekend of 14th - 15th July. Don had been able to get the GB5HQ special event callsign, and the group - made up entirely of CDXC members Don G3OZF, Andrew G0HSD, Gregg G4RTO and Steve G4JVG - represented RSGB, being the RSGB's Headquarters station (hence the callsign). Each IARU member society has one "HQ" station, which counts as a multiplier for those taking part. We operated two stations for much of the time - a TS930S and Drake L4B linear, and a TS680 running 100 watts, and made a total of about 2300 QSOs: not bad for a 24 hour contest - that TH6DXX at 80 feet really works!

1989 CQ CONTESTS RESULTS

The June edition of "CQ" magazine lists the high-claimed scores for last year's CQ World Wide SSB and CW contests, contests in which CDXC members did extremely well. The following is a list of CDXC members and other British amateurs' results (these scores are subject to verification and further checking by the CQ contest committee). First the SSB contest:

Multi operator, single transmitter (all band):	
GJ6UW (8 CDXC, 3 non-CDXC ops)	11.01 M (8th World, 1st Europe)
GW8GT	6.17 M (12th Europe, 2nd British)
Single operator, all band:	
VP5T (op. G3YDV/NM2Y)	6.13 M (4th World, 1st North America)
K3ZO	4.16 M (4th USA)
GW4BLE	4.05 M (3rd Europe, 1st British)
G3SNN*	2.57 M (9th Europe, 2nd British)
GW0ARK	1.18 M (3rd British)
Single operator, 28 MHz:	
G3LNS*	1.00 M (8th Europe, 1st British)
G4LJF	620 k (2nd British)

All single op. callsigns except those marked with * are CDXC members. There were no CDXC or other British callsigns listed in the other categories, such as multi operator multi transmitter, or single operator 21, 14, 7, 3.5 or 1.8 MHz. VP5T operated by Steve, G3YDV, who is also one of the British members of the World Radiosport Team Championship in Seattle, is to be congratulated on a superb score as a single operator from North America, only 100 k points behind YJ0R (operated by OH1RY) and 800 k points behind ZB2X (also operated by a Finnish contester!), who was World 2nd. Steve just pipped Paul VP2EXX into North America 2nd place, but beware Steve - Paul is only 17 years old and tells me that he intends to win next year! The multi-single category was also highly competitive, with the mainly-CDXC GJ6UW team just beating OH0AM into European 2nd place by about half-a-million points (not a large margin when we are talking about 11 M points). It is nice to be one up on the Finns for a change!

Now the CW Contest:

Multi operator, multi transmitter:	
4U1ITU (ops. included G3SXW)	17.39 M (5th World, 2nd Europe)
Multi operator, single transmitter (all band):	
G3LNS*	4.58 M (15th Europe, 1st British)
G3SZA (op. G3SZA* & G0MFO)	2.35 M (2nd British)
Single operator, all band:	
G3FXB	3.78 M (5th Europe, 1st British)
K3ZO	3.56 M (12th USA)
GW4BLE (op. G3WVG*)	3.17 M (9th Europe, 2nd British)
G3XTT	2.84 M (11th Europe, 3rd British)
XE1RYQ (op. G3YDV/NM2Y)	2.04 M
Single operator, 28 MHz:	
G3TXF	542 k (8th Europe, 1st British)
G4CNY*	512 k (11th Europe, 2nd British)
G3HCT	490 k (12th Europe, 3rd British)
Single operator, 7 MHz:	
G3IGW*	169 k (9th Europe, 1st British)
QRP, all band: G4BUE	928 k (2nd World, 1st Europe)

Again, * signifies British non-CDXC members who figured in the results. This time the most closely-competed category was the single operator all band section, with three British stations, G3FXB, GW4BLE and G3XTT (all CDXC members) showing in the results. It is interesting to note that with a score of just over 3 M points, GW4BLE (operated by G3WVG) was the second highest- scoring station in the U.K. and 9th in Europe, and yet K3ZO, with about 400 k higher score, was only 12th in the USA - it just shows how highly competitve this contest is, especially in the States. The QRP result from G4BUE was excellent, being within 70 k points of the World 1st, W2TZ.

MINUTES OF THE CDXC ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING HELD AT G4LJF's QTH ON 27th MAY 1990

Present: G3KMA G3GIQ G3RUR GW3CDP G4GED G3OZF G3KOX G3ZAY G3XTT G3COJ G3VKW G0ABI G3GNR G3OFW G4JVG G3SJX G3TXF G3SXW G4BKI G4DQW G3LQP G4LJF.

Apologies for absence were received from G3HTA, G4PEO, G3NOB and GW4OFQ.

Minutes of the last meeting: G4LJF asked if there were any objections to the minutes of the last meeting. Both G4JVG and G3SJX stated that they attended the last ARM, but were not recorded in the minutes. G4LJF apologised for this and the secretary noted the fact. The minutes were then unanimously approved.

Chairman's address: G4LJF outlined the year as one of progress and added that all round it had been a good one. Membership had grown yet again, with only one resignation by G3YMC, which had been on the cards for some time. The chairman noted the sad loss of Alan GW0BIC, who had achieved so much in a short period of operation on the air.

On the positive side, the introduction of the cluster and the CDXC QSL cards had proved very popular. He added that Cycle 22 had not been as good as forecast, but the great number of DXpeditions during the year, and the ease with which they were worked, meant that many members were now on Honor Roll.

On the negative side he was appalled by the decline in operating standards on the bands, particularly during the 3Y Bouvet operation, and hoped that the hobby was not in future going down this road. He said it was essential that CDXC members maintained high and skillful operating standards.

He thanked all officers for the work that they had done during the year -

John G3HTA for the CDXC badges, Don G3XTT for the excellent newsletters in particular. All had done an excellent job, his only concern was that the same people had given their services without any help from new members of CDXC.

Secretary's report: Roger G3LQP outlined the year - most of the time was devoted to membership applications. Membership was now up to 121, an increaseof 42 in the year, with one resignation. Most of the new members were recruited at the HF Convention, 26 in all, again a very successful time for CDXC.

Affiliation to the RSGB had taken place and CDXC stationery had been updated - application forms etc. - which has improved the club's image. He added that enquiries had come from overseas, but as we were a U.K. club, these had to be turned down.

An updated membership list was available for member's present. He concluded by saying that he thought the future for CDXC looked extremely bright.

Award Manager's Report: Dave G4GED stated that two Certificates of Merit had been awarded to OH2BH and the HA DX gang during the past year.

The certificate itself had been upgraded. He suggested for the future that a plaque costing approximately £15 should be awarded, with the re-vamped certificate being sent to members of a group. Possible next winners, he suggested, should be JA1UT for the S2 operation. This, if approved, would be the first JA to win the certificate. Other suggestions for the committee to decide for the merit award were DL2GAC, SM7PKK and PA3CXC.

On the CQ awards, he suggested £100 should be allocated for the awards over a possible 3-4 year period.

A sum of £115 was reserved for the purchase of a silver cup for the Penallt Trophy. A discussion was held on the rules and it was finally agreed that the cup is to be awarded to the CDXC member who works the most countries in any five day period 1st October - 31st March each year on 40 and 80 metres, with a minimum qualifying figure of 100 countries (total). Contest weekends may be included if so desired. As this was the first year of the award, the period this year should be 1st September 1989 - 31st August 1990. The committee would decide the winner by 7th September 1990 and the winner would be presented with the trophy at the HF Convention on 30th September, perhaps by Sue Phillips, widow of Alan GW0BIC.

Treasurer's report: Dave G4GED presented the statement of accounts for the period 1st

May 1989 - 26th May 1990. He said the club had a total of £694.89, split between £71.93 in the current account and £622.96 in the deposit account. The deposit account balance includes the sum of £115.00 reserved for the purchase of the Penallt Trophy. The report was unanimously approved.

Election of Officers: Ian asked Don G3OZF to occupy the chair to conduct the election of committee members for the following year, as the constitution requires a neutral chairman who will not himself be standing for office.

Chairman - Ian G4LJF proposed and Roger G3LQP seconded Don G3XTT as Chairman.

G3XTT was unanimously voted in as Chairman.

Vice-Chairman - Steve G4JVG proposed and Martin G3ZAY seconded Andrew G0HSD as Vice-Chairman. G0HSD was unanimously approved.

Secretary - Denzil GW3CDP proposed and Tony G3OFW seconded Roger G3LQP as

Secretary. G3LQP was unanimously approved.

Treasurer - Tony G3OFW proposed and Nick G3KOX seconded Dave G4GED as Treasurer. G4GED was unanimously approved.

Newsletter Editor - Roger G3LQP proposed and Roger G3KMA seconded Steve G4JVG as Newsletter Editor. G4JVG was unanimously approved.

President - Roger G3LQP proposed and Tony G3OFW seconded Ian G4LJF as President. G4LJF was unanimously approved.

With the election of officers now complete, Don G3OZF thanked the outgoing committee and handed over the chair to the new Chairman, Don G3XTT.

G3XTT thanked the meeting for their vote and the outgoing committee for their efforts during the past year. He asked Tony G3RUR to continue as Auditor. Tony agreed to do so. He asked Dave G4GED to continue as Awards Manager. Dave also agreed to continue. Don also asked Steve G4JVG to continue as Social Secretary. Steve agreed to do so.

Other business: Don asked the meeting what subjects members would like the committee to tackle in the coming year. A wide range of subjects was suggested: a. that the committee should have an agenda for the coming year; b. subscriptions should again be discussed; c. the club should have a publicity brochure; d. participation of CDXC at the HF Convention; e. CDXC should make representation to the RSGB on the use of 144.525 as an HF DX alert frequency; f. expand the packet cluster system; g. CDXC should award more trophies; h. QSL assistance to UK QSL managers (for DX stations).

Subscriptions: Discussion took place and it was the general feeling among the meeting that subscriptions should be raised in order to enable the club to expand as it should. In the end, it was proposed that the subscription should be raised to £10 per year. A vote was taken and the proposal approved by a majority of members present.

HF Convention: Martin G3ZAY proposed that a sum of £120 should be allocated from club funds towards CDXC participation at Daventry. Also that CDXC should support a UK-based expedition, including participation in the CQ World Wide SSB and CW contest or contests. It was generally agreed that these points should be implemented, but it was left for the committee to work out the details at forthcoming meetings.

It was also suggested that the committee should discuss ways of boosting club funds, for example by the purchase of 4 metre "boxes".

Members suggested that assistance should be given to UK QSL managers, e.g. of 7Q7LA, in providing suitable art work for QSLs and possible financial help.

Brian G3COJ suggested that the committee should contact G4TDL a.s.a.p. with regard to the use of 144.525 MHz. The chairman agreed to do so.

On the question of the cluster, the chairman congratulated Ian G4LJF on his great contribution in setting it up. CDXC was going to support the cluster in every way possible.

There being nothing further to discuss, the chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting at 1735.

(signed) Roger Brown, G3LQP, CDXC

FOR SALE

Kenwood TS-430S HF transceiver, includes WARC bands and general coverage receiver. Complete with 1.8 kHz narrow SSB filter and wide AM filter for broadcast band listening, also matching Kenwood PS-430 heavy duty PSU. Ideal for mobile, portable, as a standby rig, main base station rig and especially DXpeditions - used on G4JVG/OH0, GJ4JVG/P Minquiers, TA3/G4JVG, TA3/GM3YOR and VP2E/G4JVG operations - small and light enough to carry on planes as hand baggage. Case slightly scratched due to DXpedition use, hence £720 o.n.o., including PSU (would prefer not to split). Call Steve G4JVG, Tel. 0734-722538. Also, 60 foot very heavy duty tower, similar to heavy duty Versatower, on 22 ft long trailer. Tower and all cables in good condition, trailer has two brand new tyres (worth almost £100), though it could do with a touch of paint. Can be towed by any medium power car (1600 c.c. plus). Complete with head unit and trailer lights. Ideal for field day, contest group use, and may help to circumvent planning permission problems if it is moved from time to time. Strumech's trailer-mounted towers cost around £3000 new - this one £700 o.n.o. Genuine reason for sale - can't take it to Papua New Guinea! Contact Steve G4JVG, Tel. 0734-722538 evening or weekends.

DX Calendar (*Tnx G4DYO*)

Soon?	7O by 9K Ops
Til Aug 1	JD by KA2IJ??
Til Aug 17	JA9IAX/JD1 (MT)
Til Sep 14	PA3FAC in SU
Til Oct	Pacific AA6LF
Til Oct	S79SC
Til Oct	RB5ES/UA0X
Til Dec	CE by F2JD
Til Dec	ZM pfx by ZL's
Til Dec	VR200 Pitcairn
Til Dec	VR6WH
Til Jan 91	ZL0AIC Antarc
Til Jan 91	ZD8CUE
Til Apr 91	Y90ANT
Til Oct 91	7P8CL by SM5KDM
Jul 27-Aug 24	TF by DL's
Jul 28-Aug 4	AS-25 UZ9OWM/RZ0F
Jul 28-Aug 6	EU-48 Hoedic Is
Aug ??	T32BQ by AA6LF
Aug	4L9AG
Aug 1-15	AS-68 4K4A?
Aug 1-15	J49G (SV9)
Aug 4-5	YO CW/SSB Contest
Aug 4-5	IG1A by I1RBJ
Aug 4-11	GU4VPM
Aug 5	EU-69 Columbretes
Aug 8-Oct 1	9H3CH by G4VBH
Aug 11-18	U9W/W6/G3MHV
Aug 12-26	GJ/PB0AFQ
Aug 16-17	IH6A by I1RBJ
Aug 18-19	SEANET SSB Contest
Aug 18-18	IG6A by I1RBJ
Aug 19-27	AF-36 Chafarinas Is
Aug 20-31	IH6A by I1RBJ
Aug 21-25	UL7 by W6/G3MHV
Aug 25-26	All Asian CW Ctst
Sep?	A51JX by VU's
Sep	KH6 by AA6LF
Sep	A51JX =VU2NTA?
Sep 1-2	EU-93 Tabarca Is
Sep 2	LZ CW Contest
Sep 8-9	IL1A by I1RBJ
Sep 15-16	Scandin. CW Activity
Sep 16-17	KH2 by JA's?
Sep 16-18	V63AN Yap Is
Sep 22	CDXC Conv. Paris
Sep 23-30	JH1QDB/JD1
Sep 29-30	CQWW DX RTTY Cts
Sep 29-30	RSGB HF CONV.
Sep 29-30	Scandin. SSB Act
Oct ??	Europa Is FR5AI
Oct 6	FOC DINNER-LORDS
Oct 6-7	IRSA Champ. SSB
Oct 6-7	VK/ZL/OC SSB Cts
Oct 7	IRSA Champ. CW
Oct 12-??	HK Malpelo Is
Oct 13-14	VK/ZL/OC CW Ctst
Oct 27-28	CQWW DX SSB Ctst
Nov 9-11	JA SSB Contest
Nov 10-11	FV6PAX
Nov 15-Dec 15	VP8 S Sand???
Nov 24-25	CQWW DX CW Contest
Dec 7-9	ARRL 160m CW Ctst
Dec 8-9	ARRL 10m CW/SSB Ct
Apr 12-14	VISALIA 1991
Apr 26-28	DAYTON 1991

DX Editors are welcome to use news items from this newsletter (with due acknowledgement), but please check with the editor if you wish to use a complete article.